

The Rural Areas of Pakistan: Issues and Problems.

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Introduction :

According to a World Bank report titled ‘State of Water Supply, Sanitation and Poverty in Pakistan’, Balochistan has by far the highest rural poverty rate, with more than 62 per cent of its rural population living below the poverty line. However, the gap between rural and urban poverty is the widest in Sindh at almost 30 percentage points. In contrast, the urban-rural gap in Punjab and Khyber-Pakhtunkhwa was 13 and 15 percentage points, respectively.

Rural households, it said, faced a substantial disadvantage in virtually all aspects of service delivery. Nationally, the rural net enrolment rate was 13 percentage points lower for primary school and 11 percentage points lower for middle school than in urban areas. For girls, these gaps stood at 17 and 14 percentage points, respectively. The rural female literacy rate, at 28pc, was also less than half of that in urban areas.

The report noted that districts varied widely in poverty, with the richest district Abbottabad at a headcount rate of 5.8pc and the poorest district — Washuk in Balochistan — at 72.5pc. Much of this variation reflected differences in poverty across provinces. The vast majority of the 40 poorest districts were in Balochistan, followed by Sindh.¹

Agriculture:

It represents the primary function of rural areas in the past, so it was characteristic for village construction to be dominated by farmstead building present at varying densities and in different special arrangements. However, as economic development progressed and rural areas became better equipped with social and technical infrastructure, economic functions other than farming developed, therefore rural areas should be built like urbanization.

Study: Area and Data Collection:

Rural areas are said to be the research areas because of many natural resources and materials, specifically plants, flow on mountains, pure water of springs, glaciers at beautiful peaks, forests etc. are the best opportunity for those who want to research and easily do. Therefore I will try my level best to say that educational institutions should be linked with rural areas for the prosperity of our own country.

The rural areas of Gilgit Baltistan, and Kashmir, Balochistan etc. are the main territories by which scientific data, social research data, political data could be covered by the researcher, which are a basic and important method to upgrade Pakistan.

¹ <https://www.dawn.com/news/1444874>

Tourism Point Of State:

Rural areas are important for tourism and tourism is travel for pleasure or business also the theory and practice of touring. The business of attracting, accommodating, and entertaining tourists and the business of operating tours. Natural beauty is already a divine gift on rural areas. But the facilities are not enough for tourism in our rural areas. Therefore it is a humble request to our P.M for providing such facilities which can be done by tourist fund should be kept suitable for tourism. Because by tourism we can attract the whole world and which is also important for our economy today. Today tourism is a major source of income for many countries and effects the economy of both source and host countries. In some cases being a vital importance.

Tourism has become a vital and important institution of a state nowadays for the national income for many regions and even countries. Tourism brings a large amount of income into a local economy in the form of payments for the goods and services as needs by the tourists also generate OPPORTUNITIES FOR THE HOST COUNTRY'S EMPLOYMENT IN THE SERVICES SECTOR OF THE ECONOMY ASSOCIATED WITH TOURISM.

On the flip side, tourism can degrade people and sour relationships b/w two host countries and guests.

Agriculture of Rural Areas :

This paragraph is related to the agriculture of the rural areas and it is also important for public policy to Prime Minister Imran Khan i.e. The concept of rural development must, therefore, be considered with particular reference to agriculture, since agriculture is the basis of livelihood of the most rural families, therefore, development projects and programs should be introduced in rural areas and development must have to legs: Urban industrialization and Rural Improvements.

Enough population of Pakistan live in rural areas and gain part or all of their livelihood from some of the agriculture. Most of these people are also still very poor and dependent on agriculture practices that have benefitted little from modern technology. They live in the less developed and inhospitable places often with less access the resources they need to improve the agriculture, whereas it is also a fact that agriculture is a vital part of a country's economy. The relationship can perhaps be best understood by the study of following:

Agriculture's important role is one of the production, both of food for the rural and urban population and of cash crops for the export market. And is a basic resource for most of the most of the countries and exploitation in the interest of its citizen is one of the country's main responsibility?

Therefore our government must take care of technological reforms, to make easy in agriculture products which are also suitable for our economy. The public has to be trained by the government in the different agricultural processes.

Improvement in Education:

This is one of the most important issues for both guardians and school administration which is the biggest hurdle in providing education to poor and underprivileged areas and also rural areas school lack many facilities, lack technology, lack building.

There are many reasons behind lack of such things in rural areas are the following:

- No interest of regional MLA, MPs, EDAs etc.
- No interest of civil servants, doctors, engineers, advocates, leaders from any region to give a motivational talk and some other reasons are examples: no proper toilets and sanctions, no health and sports facilities, no role of teachers (least educated teachers), no student competitions and scholarship programs. These are the reasons for my knowledge the government should take action for improvement.

Transportations:

Rural areas are very important for our country. It keeps the scope of tourism and researchers skills. But many rural areas have not a good road for transportations. All roads in rural areas are non-metal and tourism, agricultural, forest can't be usable without a road. Road construction is very important for us to make daily life easy.

Health:

Rural health networks are a potential way for rural care systems to improve access to care, reduce costs and enhance the quality of care in rural areas of Pakistan. Health networks are working but products cannot be given to poor nation and hospitals have much staff but a nurse or compounder/dispenser worked in place of MBBS and surgeon, such problem can be resolved by the government if want to facilitate rural areas.

Forestry in rural areas:

The forestry of the sector is the main source of lumber, paper, fuelwood, latex, medicine as well as food and provide eco-tourism wildlife conservation purpose.

Forest function is to preserve environment issue but our forest trees can be cut day by day, perhaps government don't take action, should take action because the glacier is melting due to lack of forestry requested due to my govt. that God gifted forest beauty should not vanish.

They avoid soil erosion and further desertification. Forest policy must be established for such cases, our government can save forests by a way that:

- Teach others about the importance of the environment and how they can help save rainforests.
- Restore damaged ecosystem by planting trees on the land.
- Establish forest task etc.

Conclusion:

Thus, keeping in view the significance of agricultural, tourism and economic aspects along with the loopholes in the educational, health, transportations and other sectors of rural areas, the govt. of Pakistan should work diligently with care and prudence for the overall progress of the state and for the individual and the specific progress of tourist places and rural areas.

Agriculture, forests and health care sectors also need special initiative taking- as some important and regular measures on regular and frequent bases are must be taken by the govt. as apart from the mainstream political attention, measures and performances.